

**Indiana Department of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry  
Jackson-Washington State Forest & Starve Hollow State Recreation Area**



# The Beach-Nut

March 2011

## WHAT'S UP? BY BRAD SCHNECK

2010 was a busy year for both properties. Despite a few positions experiencing staff turn over the properties remained focused accomplishing many projects, both big and small.

Much of our accomplishments can be contributed to the Young Hoosier Conservation Corp (YHCC) program, which allowed the hiring of 36 youth between the ages of 18-24. These positions were in addition to our summer intermittent staff of 9.

Full time positions that saw turn over within the past year include Dennis Pace (2009) Starve Hollow STP Operator, who left to pursue work in the private sector; Jacob Hougham (2010) Jackson-Washington SF Forester, left for the private sector and Gary Wingler (2010), Jackson-Washington SF Laborer, retired after 30 plus years of service to the DNR.

As quickly as we were wishing these gentlemen the best in their new career or retirement adventures we welcomed three new team members.

Scot Smith, returned as our STP operator a position he formally held a few years back before taking a position with INDOT. Scot's return has been a huge asset to the property and Division. Midway through the 2010 season Scot

was asked to operate Deam SRA's STP as well. Deam is located in southern Indiana in the New Albany area. Deam's STP plant operator was on medical leave and Scot's knowledge and skills allowed him to manage both plants successfully maintaining all parameters of each plant's permit. Scot's efforts are much appreciated. WELL DONE SCOT!

Derrick Potts filled our vacant Forester (Resource Specialist) position in April 2010. Derrick worked as an intermittent forester at Yellowwood-Morgan Monroe SF prior to joining us. Derrick's prior knowledge of Division procedures and policies made for an easy transition into his position and minimized time spent training allowing for immediate impacts toward achieving property targets.

Jeremy Steinkamp filled our Maintenance Foreman 1 position in May 2010. This position was upgraded with the hopes of finding an individual to undertake construction projects on the property while maintaining the other normal duties a property foreman/laborer position would handle. Jeremy has done an outstanding job in the short time he's been with us. His construction skills have been proven in this time with the



work he's completed on the office interior and exterior as well as with other property projects he has completed or supervised YHCC/seasonal staff on.

A BIG WELCOME TO EACH OF THESE GUYS AND KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

2010 was a great year and I fully expect another in 2011.

Join us on May 12th from 3-6 PM at the Jackson-Washington SF office for an Open House. Join staff from Jackson-Washington and Starve Hollow to learn more about 2010 and what to expect in 2011.

Can't make it? No problem, you can always check us out on the web, stop by the office during normal office hours, or call.

As always thanks to everyone who visited us in 2010.

### Inside this issue:

Jackson-Washington SF	2
Starve Hollow SRA	2
Forest Management	3
Forest Management Spot.	3
Naturalist's Corner	3
Office Information	Back
Staff	Back

### Attention Neighbors!!!!!!

#### OPEN HOUSE

DATE: MAY 12

TIME: 3-6 PM

LOCATION: JACKSON-WASHINGTON STATE FOREST OFFICE

STAFF FROM STARVE HOLLOW AND JACKSON-WASHINGTON WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER QUESTION YOU MAY HAVE.

WE'RE OFFERING A GUIDED TOUR OF A RECENTLY COMPLETED TIMBER SALE BEGINNING AT 5 PM FROM THE FORESTRY OFFICE.

SEE YOU MAY 12TH



## JACKSON-WASHINGTON STATE FOREST

2010 was a busy year for the property with more seasonal staffing than ever before thanks to the YHCC program. The large number of youth hired allowed the accom-



Sandstone picnic tables in the historic CCC Playground and Picnic area.

plishment of several projects that otherwise would've taken two or three years to

complete. Below is a short list of projects accomplished in 2010:

- Replaced all tops and seats (with oak) on the 19 historic sandstone picnic tables in the CCC playground and picnic area.
- Removed existing 500' board walk and constructed new on Trail 6
- Repaired/constructed foot bridges in campground and Trails 5 and 7
- Constructed a firewood building to support property needs (protect firewood for heating of office/shop and concessions sales).
- Interior and exterior construction on office building.
- Painted all property signs and



Trail 6 boardwalk.

information booths/kiosks/signs.

- Installed roofs on all archery range target platforms.

Join us May 12th for our Open House to learn more or visit us this summer to witness these accomplishments and create your own recreational experi-

## STARVE HOLLOW STATE RECREATION AREA

2010 was a busy year for Starve Hollow, but 2011 is shaping up to be busier.

Starve Hollow is a modern campground facility so the majority of our seasonal staff is utilized to operate entry/camping gates, camp store, security, and maintain the appearance and cleanliness of the grounds and facilities.

Thanks to the YHCC program in 2010 we were able to make a few improvements to the property such as trail improvements, painting, and replacing ADA ramps.

A major accomplishment in 2010 was the remodeling of our three comfort stations. Led by our full time staff with assistance from Indiana Department of Corrections and Jackson County Corrections, each comfort station received a new roof, wall and ceiling panels, lighting, shower partitions and hardware, ADA sinks, toilet and urinal partitions, and flooring.



For all of you fishermen check out our newly remodeled fish cleaning station. Staff remodeled our existing cleaning station by installing a new cleaning station unit, roof and a fresh coat of paint.

Thanks largely to the Jackson County Leadership group the Nature Center received a new covered porch. The porch provides new space for various Nature Center activities/events to be held outside regardless of weather conditions.



Currently, staff are working hard preparing for the upcoming recreational season. We have a firewood storage building under construction to ensure the firewood we sell through concessions is dry for customers at all times.

We continue to work on various details of our mechanical and hydrological dredge project we unveiled last year. We've already received some supplies and equipment and we're working on additional purchases of needed supplies as well as

finalizing details with adjacent landowners who will receive some of the material we remove.

Our dredging efforts will begin with the front entrance, working both sides of the road. Our goal is to reclaim this area to its previous state. If all progresses well we anticipate work beginning in the spring or early summer.

Lake management is another area we're planning for as well. Following the removal of gizzard shad and carp lake clarity improved. Improved clarity was a good thing but it resulted in increased sunlight penetrating the water column which stimulated aquatic weed growth. Weed growth exploded over the past couple years and for those of you that have visited us during this period know what we're battling. We're working on purchasing chemicals and equipment to better assist us with our weed management efforts in 2011.

Join us May 12th from 3-6PM at the Jackson-Washington State Forest office located off HWY 250 outside of Brownstown for an Open House. See photos of projects, talk with staff and learn more about each property and the upcoming year. Learn about forest management through a guided tour of a timber sale beginning at 5:00PM.

Thanks to all of you that visited us last year and we hope to see you this year.



## FOREST MANAGEMENT UPDATE

The IDNR Division of Forestry actively and sustainably manages 156,000 acres. Each year a small percentage of this acreage receives management in the form of planned and scheduled timber harvests.

The Division of Forestry annually returns 15% of the net proceeds from the sale of timber on state owned lands to the county from which the timber was sold.

House Enrolled Act (HEA) 1424 allows for up to 50% of these county proceeds to be distributed among qualifying fire departments. Qualifying departments must have cooperative agreements in effect with the IDNR Division of Forestry.

Last fall the Division of Forestry presented

checks to 17 counties that totaled \$289,341.69 for the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year (FY).

Jackson County received \$36,339.80 and Washington County \$6,192.95.

Up to 50% of this money can go to volunteer fire departments (VFD's) with cooperative agreements with the Division of Forestry. For FY09-10 nine (9) fire departments in Jackson County received \$1,000 each and ten (10) in Washington County received \$309.65 each.

The 2010-2011 FY is nearly over and our final timber sales are scheduled for April. These sales will allow us to meet



our target of 1.9 million bdf for the FY.

Jackson-Washington State Forest is an actively managed forest employing a variety of forest management practices across its landscape. Each year our foresters conduct forest inventories, develop management guides, administer management harvests, and perform/supervise timber stand improvement (TSI) on nearly 10% of our 18,000 acres.

To learn more about the property, Division of Forestry, or Forest Certification

## FOREST MANAGEMENT SPOTLIGHT

BY BRAD SCHNECK



Many of Jackson-Washington State Forest's adjacent landowners (neighbors) are also woodland owners as well. These private woodlands range in sizes from a few acres to a few hundred acres. Large or small each plays an important roll across the landscape whether it be for aesthetics, wildlife, hunting, or income.

Woodlands are comprised of trees and trees are an agricultural crop, much like corn or soybean with a much slower rate of growth. Whether it be trees, corn or soybeans the healthier a crop is the better the return. Trees are much like homes, if you will, meaning some are worth more than others and the better they're managed the greater return they bring down the road.

The decision to harvest your trees is important and how it's accomplished can improve or set back the future value of your property.

**CALL BEFORE YOU CUT** is an information program designed to help woodland owners as they consider selling timber from their lands.

The program has developed a website that provides a variety of information:

- why sell timber
- aspects to think about before you sell timber
- publications and informational brochures on timber management
- sample contracts
- contact information for district forester or consultants in your area.

So, if you're thinking about selling timber or know someone who is please visit the **Call Before You Cut** website [www.callbeforeyucut.com](http://www.callbeforeyucut.com) or call (888) 939-9493. You can also contact Ben McKinney, District Forester for Jackson and Washington County at (812)358-2160.

## NATURALIST'S CORNER

BY SANDY DERRINGER

As I sit outside writing this on a somewhat gloomy day, the sounds of spring are all around me. There are many birds to hear and observe this time of year and our new covered porch provides a great place to do this from. If you haven't visited us within the last year, the Jackson County Leadership group helped build a covered porch at the nature center. It has come in very handy for outside programs. Midway-Winnelson installed a whole wall of cabinets to help with storage and organization in the office. The group was recognized by the Division of Forestry by receiving the Friends of Forestry award in March. Congratulations and Thanks!

Summer is just around the corner as I start getting ready for a busy recreation season. But first there are training sessions to attend and Earth day programs to present. Next week I will attend a regional interpreter's conference that I have been a committee member of. It is a great time to meet naturalists from other states as well as Canada in order to exchange ideas to bring even more exciting programs to you.

Exciting events happening this summer include: **Fishing Derby** on June 4<sup>th</sup>, a **4th of July Parade** on July 2, **Treasure Hunt** week July 24 – 30, **Smokey's Birthday** party August 6, **Archaeology Day** Sep-

tember 24, **Scarecrow Building** October 22, **Halloween** with a site decorating contest and trick or treating October 29, plus many other weekends filled with exploring and learning.

With reduced budgets donation play an important role. If you are interested in donating, either funds or volunteering time, please contact the naturalist, Sandy Derringer, or the property manager, Brad Schneck, at 812-358-3464.

As a reminder, the nature center is open year round. My services are available to deliver programs to schools, organizations, or events.

**Jackson-Washington State Forest**

1278 East State Road 250

Brownstown, IN 47220

Phone (812) 358-2160

Fax (812) 358-5837

Email: JacksonSF@dnr.IN.gov

**Starve Hollow State Recreation Area**

4345 S. 275 W

Vallonia, IN 47281

Phone (812) 358-3464

Fax (812) 358-3826

Email: StarveSRA@dnr.IN.gov



**Office Hours**

**Monday - Friday**

**7:30am - 3:30pm**

**Note: Starve Hollow operational hours are 7 days a week from May - October.**

**STAFF**

Jackson-Washington SF

Brad Schneck—Property Manager

Todd Eubank—Assist. Property Mgr

Michael Spalding—Resource Spec.

Brenda Cooper—Office Manager

Derrick Potts—Resource Spec.

Jeremy Steinkamp—Maint. Foreman

Starve Hollow SRA

Brad Schneck—Property Manager

Todd Eubank—Assist. Property Mgr

Cheryl Schrader—Office Manager

Scot Smith—Sewer Treat. Plant

Donnie Williams—Auto Mechanic

Kevin Kramer—Labor, Trade, Craft

Sandy Derringer—Naturalist

**Mission Statement**

*The Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Division of Forestry promotes and practices good stewardship of natural, recreational and cultural resources on Indiana's public and private forest lands. This stewardship produces continuing benefits, both tangible and intangible, for the present and future generations.*

JACKSON-WASHINGTON SF  
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BROWNSTOWN, IN 47220